

41
cont. Sub E27
wherein the water-permeable pressure layer is a substance having a plurality of rigid metal particles or ceramic particles; and

wherein the substance excluding alumina has a specific gravity ranging from 4.0 to 12.

Sub E37
8. (Thrice Amended.) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the respective segments formed by the vertical partition have a cross-sectional area of 50 to 5000 cm².

J2
9. (Thrice Amended.) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the vertical partition has a height of 20 to 300 cm in the vertical direction.

J3
Sub E2
10. (Thrice Amended.) An apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising:
a layer configured to disperse and mitigate an upward stream of the waste water and/or a waste gas, said layer being provided under the packed bed.

Sub E3
14. (Thrice Amended.) An apparatus according to claim 30, wherein each one of the rigid metallic particles or ceramic particles has an average diameter of 3 to 30 mm.

J4
Sub E4
15. (Thrice Amended.) An apparatus for preventing abrasion of a solid catalyst and/or a solid adsorbent while treating waste water, comprising:
a packed bed of the solid catalyst and/or the solid adsorbent; and
a layer configured to disperse and mitigate an upward stream of the waste water and/or a waste gas;

wherein the dispersing and mitigating layer is provided under the packed bed of the solid catalyst and/or the solid adsorbent;

Sub E47
X54
Cm
wherein the dispersing and mitigating layer is a substance having a plurality of rigid metallic particles or ceramic particles; and

wherein the substance excluding alumina has a specific gravity ranging from 4.0 to 12.

Sub E51
D6
23. (Twice Amended.) An apparatus for prevent abrasion of a solid catalyst and/or a solid adsorbent while treating waste water, comprising:

a packed bed of the solid catalyst and/or the solid adsorbent; and

a water-permeable pressure layer having a load which can suppress a deformation of the packed bed of the solid catalyst and/or the solid adsorbent;

wherein the water-permeable pressure layer is provided on the packed bed of the solid catalyst and/or the solid adsorbent;

wherein the water-permeable pressure layer is a substance having a plurality of rigid metal particles or ceramic particles;

wherein the substance excluding alumina has a specific gravity ranging from 4.0 to 12;

and

wherein the packed bed is provided in a wet-oxidation treatment unit.

Sub E7
D6
27. (Amended.) An apparatus for preventing abrasion of a solid catalyst and/or a solid adsorbent while treating waste water, comprising:

a packed bed of the solid catalyst and/or the solid adsorbent; and

a layer configured to disperse and mitigate an upward stream of the waste water and/or a waste gas;

wherein the dispersing and mitigating layer is provided under the packed bed of the solid catalyst and/or the solid adsorbent;